## **CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

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1. A method for managing membership of nodes in a computer network cluster, the method comprising:

interfering

interfacing a shareable storage device to a network cluster; and granting membership in the network cluster to a node if the node has access to the shareable storage device.

2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

revoking membership of the node in the computer network cluster if the node ceases to have access to the shareable storage device.

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3. The method of Claim 2 further comprising:

ceasing operation of the cluster if no node has access to the shareable storage device.

4. A system for managing membership of nodes in a computer network cluster, comprising:

a network infrastructure for supporting a plurality of nodes in a computer network;

a storage device separated from the network infrastructure and interconnectable to a plurality of nodes;

a note interconnected with the storage device; and

a manager mechanism to grant membership in the network cluster to the node based on the node having access to the storage device.

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5. A computer program product for managing membership of nodes in a computer network cluster, the computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable code thereon, including program code which: interfaces a shareable storage device to a network cluster; and grants membership in the network cluster to a node if the node has access

to the shareable storage device.

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